and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha:—

September, '88 . . .	9.57%
October, '88	13.62%
November, '88 . . .	14.11%
December, '88 . . .	11.17%
January, '89	12.63%
February, '89	11.95%

(b) During this period, 87 flights of Air India were cancelled due to engineering problems and six flights due to operational reasons. Information in respect of Vayudoot flights is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) Details are being compiled and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Profits/Losses by State Road Transport Corporation

3401. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the profits/losses earned/incurred by various Central and State Road Transport Corporations/Authorities in each of the last three years and the current year and also the cumulative profit/loss in each case stating the investment made in each case; and

(b) in what manner the profit/loss performance of Government buses, compare with those of the private buses during each of the last three years; both under the Delhi Transport Corporation stating the similar comparison in different States also?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Setting up of the Vishwa Hindi Vidyapeeth

3402. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pelased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question Nos. 1981 and 3292 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th August and 7th December, 1988 respectively and state:

(a) what are the comments of the UGC Chairman on the draft bill prepared by the sub-committee constituted by the Ministry of Human Resource Development for the setting up of the Vishwa Hindi Vidyapeeth especially to facilitate the study of Hindi by foreign students;

(b) what progress has been made so far in the light of these comments;

(c) what is the time-schedule of the establishment of the Vidyapeeth; and

(d) whether the late Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, had promised and made announcement for the appointment of a committee for establishing this Vidyapeeth; if so, on which date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) The UGC Chairman has opined that in all the Universities Hindi. Departments have already been established. Therefore, to set up separate Hindi University would not be feasible. Secondly, there may be demands from other quarters for setting up universities on Language basis. Therefore, to establish any University on the basis of Language is not desirable.

(b) The suggestions of the Chairman, University Grants Commission were discussed by a Sub-Committee in its meeting held on 17th August, 1988. The draft Bill is being studied in the light of the deliberations by the Sub-Committee

(c) No time-schedule has been laid down for the establishment of the Vidyapeeth.

(d) On the basis of a decision taken in the meeting of Karya Karini Upa Samiti of Hindi Shiksha Samiti held on 15-9-1983, a Sub-Committee was constituted to examine the proposal of the establishment of the Vishwa Hindi Vidyapeeth. At the time of inauguration of the Third World Hindi Conference, the late Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi had referred about this sub-committee in her inaugural speech on 28-10-1983.

3403. [*Transferred to the 30th March, 1989*].

Road mishaps in India

3402. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:

SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of the dead and injured in road mishaps in the country in each of the last three years; whether India's average rate of accidents is very high in the world, proportionate to the number of vehicles in the country; in what manner it compares with the accident rates in the world;

(b) what are the reasons for India's high rate of mishaps;

(c) what steps have been taken since independence to ensure safety on roads in the country; and

(d) what have been the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) The total number of persons killed and injured in Road Accidents during the last three years are as under:—

Year	Persons Killed	Persons injured
1986 . . .	40,000	1,75,700
1987 . . .	42,900	1,83,300
1988 (Provisional) .	46,600	1,91,800

According to the latest comparable figures available, the rate of persons killed per thousand vehicles in India works out to 4.27 as compared to 0.3 for U.K., 0.4 for France and 4.4 for South Korea and 6.3 for Pakistan.

(b) The analysis of accidents data reveals that the main factors responsible for road accidents are human failure, driver's fault, mechanical defects in vehicles, bad roads and hetrogeneous mix of vehicles, in growing numbers, consisting of extremely slow moving to high speed vehicles, operating on limited road capacity.

(c) and (d) The Central Government, from time to time, has written to the State Governments to ensure strict control in the matter of issue of driving licences, grant of fitness certificates to vehicles etc. State Government have also been asked to make suitable provision in their respective M. V. rules for use of safety devices like speed-governors, compulsory fitment of indicators, auto-dippers etc. Besides this, they have also been requested to set up driver training schools to impart training to the applicants of driving licences. The new Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 being brought into force soon, provides for driver training as a pre-requisite for issuance of licence to drive transport vehicles. Provisions designed to promote road safety include establishing road safety councils at National and State levels, prescribing qualifications for officers of Motor Vehicles Deptt. of the States, maintenance of State Register for driving licence and for registered motor vehicles, establishing Truck Parking Complexes along Highways etc.

Road Safety Weeks are organised to bring in public awareness in respect of observance of road discipline. Road Safety Week was last year observed during 6—12 June, 1988, another road safety week is scheduled from 3rd to 9th April, 1989.